Message Text

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PAGE 01 JAKART 06045 100709Z ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 XMB-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 H-01 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 //055 W

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R 100605Z MAY 78 FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8643

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAIR, BEXP, ID

SUBJECT: POTENTIAL SALE OF LOCKHEED L-100'S

REF: STATE 118340 AND PREVIOUS

1. SUBJECT WAS NOT RAISED DURING VICE PRESIDENT'S CONVERSATIONS WITH GOI OFFICIALS. HOWEVER, AMBASSADOR WROTE TO MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS MAY 5 ENCLOSING DETAILS ON L-100 CONTAINED IN STATE 113189. BASED ON ASSURANCES IN A MAY 3 TELEX FROM LOCKHEED REP R.E.HARRISON, AMBASSADOR STATED IN THE LETTER THAT A COMPANY REPRESENTATIVE WOULD BE IN JAKARTA WITHIN "NEXT SEVERAL DAYS." MAY 22 WILL BE SEVERAL WEEKS RATHER THAN DAYS.

2. IT IS ENTIRELY POSSIBLE THAT THIS MATTER IS NOT URGENT
IN THE SENSE THAT A DECISION MAY BE MADE WITHIN THE NEXT
FEW DAYS. HOWEVER, THE ESSENTIAL POINT IS THAT THE MINISTER
OF COMMUNICATIONS CALLED THE AMBASSADOR ON AN URGENT BASIS WITH
A REQUEST FOR INFORMATION. THE MINISTER HAS THE RIGHT TO
EXPECT A QUICK IF NOT IMMEDIATE RESPONSE IF THE COMPANY
TRULY IS SERIOUS ABOUT MAKING THIS SALE. MOREOVER,
EVEN IF A PURCHASE DECISION IS NOT IMMINENT, BY NOT ACTING
QUICKLY AND FORCEFULLY LOCKHEED RUNS THE RISK OF LEETING THE GOI
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BEGIN TO THINK ONLY IN TERMS OF THE FRENCH ALTERNATIVE. ONCE THIS HAPPENS ANY SUBSEQUENT LOCKHEED SLAES CAMPAIGN, NO MATTER HOW ENERGETIC, MAY NOT BE ABLE TO REVERSE THE BUREAUCRATIC PROCESSES ALREADY SET IN MOTION.

3. INDONESIAN BUSINESSMEN AND OFFICIALS FREQUENTLY COMPLAIN THAT U.S. BUSINESSMEN ARE LESS AGGRESSIVE THAN

THEIR EUROPEAN AND JAPANESE COUNTERPARTS. THIS WOULD APPEAR TO BE A PRIME EXAMPLE OF SUCH LACKADAISICAL SALES EFFORTS. WE SHARE THE DEPARTMENT'S BEMUSEMENT BUT DON'T KNOW WHAT MORE THE EMBASSY CAN DO TO SHAKE UP THE COMPANY. MASTERS

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To: STATE Type: TE

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